



## CITY OF LODI COUNCIL COMMUNICATION

**AGENDA TITLE:** Consider Accepting Gift of the Sculpture "Rite of Spring" from Artist Scott Wampler

**MEETING DATE:** March 3, 2010

**PREPARED BY:** James Rodems

---

**RECOMMENDED ACTION:** Consider Accepting the Gift of the Sculpture, "Rite of Spring" from Artist Scott Wampler.

**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:** In November 2006, the Art in Public Places Board ("AiPP") was approached by artist, Scott Wampler. His proposal was for the Board to purchase his sculpture, "Rite of Spring", for \$70,000. No action was taken. In September 2009, the AiPP Board was again contacted regarding the sculpture. The artist would now like to donate the piece to the City of Lodi. The Rite of Spring is a 20-foot tall, highly polished, stainless steel sculpture depicting two cranes. This sculpture is a smaller version of one Mr. Wampler had placed in the Beijing International Sculpture Park in 2002. The sculpture is currently housed at the Frostad Atelier in McClellan, California.

The AiPP Board approved acceptance of the sculpture contingent upon the acceptance of the Recreation Commission and the City Council. On December 10, 2009, the Recreation Commission approved a proposal to place the piece in a City park. Minutes of the relevant discussion are attached. Two potential sites being discussed for placement are DeBenedetti and Roget parks. A final decision will be made by the Recreation Commission as the parks are further developed.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** The estimated costs are \$2,450.00 for transportation, \$10,860.00 for installation, and \$14,000.00 for concrete pad installation. This entire amount is proposed to be paid from AiPP Funds.

**FUNDING AVAILABLE:** Art in Public Places Account No. 01214.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jordan Ayers".

Jordan Ayers, Deputy City Manager

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "James M. Rodems".

James M. Rodems  
Community Center Director

Attachments

---

**APPROVED:** A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Blair King".

Blair King, City Manager

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION  
MINUTE EXERPT FROM 12/10/09 MEETING

---

ACTION ITEMS  
AGENDA ITEM A –

Approval of Potential Sites for Placement of Donated Art Sculpture

Mr. Rodems introduced this item. Mr. Rodems turned over the discussion to Commissioner Wardrobe-Fox.

Commissioner Wardrobe-Fox asked for input from other Commissioners as to where they'd like to see the sculpture placed. She doesn't have a particular bias as to where the sculpture is placed but she would like some feedback from the other Commissioners.

Commissioner Wall would like to speak with others to obtain ideas of where to place the sculpture. Commissioner Wall asked if the motion could be broken into two parts with the idea of accepting the gift and after getting input determine a place to place it. Commissioner Wardrobe-Fox clarified that it's not the artist whose asking for a place to put the sculpture but the Council would like a complete packet brought to them including the location for placement and costs. Mr. Rodems stated it's his understanding this is a time sensitive issue. Mr. Rodems suggested placement at one of the two parks under construction, DeBenedetti Park or Roget Park. Mr. Rodems stated that Dave Kirsten who sits on the Arts in Public Places (AIPP) Committee has offered to house the sculpture, at no or minimal cost to the City, until such time as it can be installed. Council has given directive to the AIPP that no art piece can be accepted unless they know where they're going to be placed and have all costs.

Mr. Dutra made a recommendation to appoint a Parks and Recreation staff person along with a Commissioner to visit the sites and come up with a list of possible locations for placement.

Commissioner Sasaki suggested placing the sculpture at DeBenedetti Park because it could be seen easier by the public.

Commissioner Wall asked if a place is determined to place the sculpture and it can be accepted, is it possible to change our minds if a better location is determined. Mr. Rodems feels that if an alternative site were located prior to the installation that would better fit the piece; reconsideration isn't out of the question. Commissioner Wall feels the sculpture is a beautiful thing and the Commission needs time to evaluate where it should be placed.

Commissioner Akin feels as a Commission they have two choices. Option one is to accept it with a couple of options for placement (i.e. DeBenedetti and Roget). Option two would be to possibly at the special meeting have information from research as suggested by Commissioner Wall and Mr. Dutra and then move forward.

Motion by Commissioner Akin to accept the art piece for either DeBenedetti Park or Roget Park with the caveat that the placement could change if a more suitable location is determined. Second by Commissioner Wardrobe-Fox.

DISCUSSION:

None

Ayes: Commissioners Sasaki, Wall, Wardrobe-Fox, Akin

Noes: None

Motion carried 4 – 0

301 Stillwater Ct.  
Lincoln, Ca 95648

September 15, 2009

Ms. Deanie Bridewell  
Art Commission Liason  
125 S. Hutchins St.  
Lodi. CA 95240

Dear Ms. Bridewell:

Our son, Scott Wampler, would like to donate (not lend) his sculpture *Rite of Spring* to an organization and venue appropriate for this piece of art. *Rite of Spring* is a 20 ft. tall highly polished stainless steel sculpture depicting two cranes in a courtship dance. He designed it while living in China several years ago and submitted a model to judges who were deciding what sculptures were to be displayed in a new Beijing International Sculpture Park. Their brochure states, "2400 proposals from 800 sculptors from 62 countries were received. 111 sculptures were chosen and exhibited " in this outstanding Park. Our son's sculpture is the theme sculpture of this premier Park. The approximate size of the Park is about 100 acres. It opened in September 2002.

The judges advised our son to work with a designated foundry in Beijing that specializes in the field. When he took the model to the foundry they asked him how tall it should be made. Having assumed he was expected to determine the height he stated it should stand 6 meters (20 ft.). About 3 or 4 weeks before the Park's opening day, the mayor of Beijing visited the foundry to review the progress of *Rite of Spring*. Although it was 90% to 95% complete, the mayor stated it would never work. He told the foundry personnel the sculpture had to be 12 meters (40 ft.) in height. It would be displayed in the center of a three tiered fountain. The foundry worked 24/7 and completed the task including erecting the sculpture properly in the fountain by Opening Day. It was a remarkable feat.

At a later date our son negotiated with the foundry to complete his original *Rite of Spring* at the foundry and ship it to the United States. It is currently stored in the Frostad Foundry in McClellan (suburb of Sacramento).

Scott is hopeful a location can be found where it will be seen and enjoyed by the public - perhaps Golden Gate Park or perhaps another well-known park. I can make arrangements for viewing *Rite of Spring* at the foundry where it is stored. I can be reached at 916-408-0441. E-mail [hjgor@sbcglobal.net](mailto:hjgor@sbcglobal.net).

Best regards,



Harvey Gorrell

Enclosures: Photos



**Frostad Atelier, Inc.**  
bronze casting

Bid Proposal  
Title: "Rite of Spring"

Standard footings for install – (material & labor) (Includes prep for template)	\$3,400.00
Dismantle for transport	\$1,600.00
Flatbed truck and loading	\$ 850.00
Installation	\$5,760.00
Crane	\$1,200.00
Forklift	<u>\$ 500.00</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$13,310.00</b>

Prior to placement, we would need a cement pad poured using template from foundry. Pad should be poured by a licensed cement contractor.

We would need 2 weeks' notice to schedule the install.

Ronnie Frostad  
Ronnie Frostad  
Owner





~~Scott~~ Wampler checking final placement of his sculpture *Rite of Spring*  
Beijing International Sculpture Park 2002



301 Stillwater Ct.  
Lincoln, CA 95648  
hjgor@sbcglobal.net

Nov. 9. 2006

Ms Deanie Bridewell  
Arts Commission Liason  
125 S. Hutchins St.  
Lodi. CA 95240

Dear Ms Bridewell:


This will confirm our phone conversation this afternoon.

Enclosed is an "information" packet we sent to you some time ago. I'm also enclosing a brochure my wife and I picked up at the entrance of the Beijing International Sculpture Park a couple weeks ago. It states Scott Wampler's sculpture Rite of Spring is the theme sculpture of the park. Unfortunately they forgot to give him credit in the brochure but credit is given on a stone marker in front of the sculpture. I'm also including several other pictures we took. No need to return any of the enclosures except please return the brochure. It's the only one we have.

We offer for sale the original Rite of Spring sculpture to you for \$70,000 cash or \$16,000 for each of five years, total \$80,000. I'm sure you know Ronnie Frostad or someone in your organization does and am confident she would estimate if she were to fabricate this sculpture from start it would cost at least twice this amount.

It's truly a beautiful piece of art and would be an ideal addition to the city's "crane" theme.

Sincerely,



Harvey Gorrrell